PATENT CLAIMS

1. Device for holding at least two oblong articles in an essentially parallel arrangement, with a receiving part for receiving the articles, which encloses a receiving space, whereby the receiving part exhibits an abutment section on which the first article introduced into the receiving part rests, and with spring elements which are connected with the receiving part and which are for fixing the articles, **characterized in that** a spring element is configured as a locking tongue (15) which can be moved transversely to the longitudinal direction of the receiving part (4) between a deflected position and a rest position, and which is configured at its free end with a receiving section (16) for the first article (26), and in the introduction direction upstream of the receiving section (16), is configured with an articulated element (17) that protrudes into the receiving space (5) when in the rest position, whereby when the first article (26) is introduced, the free end is displaced into the deflected position when the articulated element (17) contacts the first article (26), and when the first article (26) comes to rest on the abutment section (20, 21), the receiving section (16) encloses the first article (26) to such an extent that the locking tongue (15) is fixed in the rest position.

2. Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the side of the receiving section (16) facing the first article (26) is configured in accordance with the abutment section (20, 21).

3. Device according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that the articulated element (17) exhibits a front section (18) and a back section

(19) that come together in a break region that projects into the receiving space (5).

4. Device according to one of the claims 1 through 3, characterized in that at least one additional spring element (22, 23) that lies opposite the articulated element (17) is present.

5. Device according to claim 4, characterized in that the or each spring element that lies opposite articulated element (17) is configured as a counter-tongue (22, 23) with a projection that lies opposite the most raised region of the articulated element (17).

6. Device according to claim 5, characterized in that the or each projection is formed by a front section (24) and a back section (25), which come together in a break region that projects into the receiving space (5).